MERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) As per information available from National Centre for Mushroom Research and Training (ICAR), Solan, the production of mushrooms with moderate climate control is likely to be around Rs. 10/Kg.

(b) International prices depend upon the type of packing and prevalent market conditions. However, the average unit value realisation for exports from India for the last three years works out to Rs. 31.50 per Kg.

(c) and (d) In view of India's comparative advantage in our reasonable labour costs, suitable agro-climate conditions, and recent policy liberalisation, processing and export of mushroom have a good potential. In 1992-93, 3294 mts. of processed mushrooms valued at Rs. 10.81 crores were exported.

Misuse of VABAL facility by Chemical Manufacturers

3638. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen the newsitem which appeared in the Economic Times, Delhi Edition of 1st February, 1994 entitled 'Chemical manufacturers name firms violating VABAL facility';

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that such misuse have taken place in import of raw silk; and

(c) whether Government will place on the Table of the House a list of VABAL Licences granted for import of raw silk during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

कृषि उपज निर्यात नीति

3639. **श्री सुशील कुमार संभाजीराव शिन्दे** : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार कृषि उपजों के निर्यात के सम्बन्ध में कोई नीति बनाने का विचार रखती है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमालुद्दीन अहमद) : (क) से (ग) कृषि उपज के निर्यात से सम्बन्धित नीति निर्यात-आयात नीति, 1992–97 में पहले से ही शामिल है ।

Export of Sea-food items

3640. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the share of export of sea-food in the country's exports during the year 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 stating the target set for the year 1994-95; and

(b) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to further increase the export of sea food items in 1994-95 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The share of Sea food in the Country's total exports during the last three years is as under :—

(In Rs. Crores)

Year	Total Exports	Exort of Marine Products.	Share %
1991-92	44042	1376	3.12%
1992-93	53351	1767	3.31%
1993-94 . . . . . (upto Feb' 94)	62181	1866	3%

The target set for the year 1994-95 is 250000 M.Tonnes valued at Rs. 2800 crores.

(b) Schemes to promote export oriented shrimp farming and various technical assistance concerned with this shall be continued. Promotion of production through deep sea fishing, by equity participation, High Speed Diesel reimbursement scheme and mid sea bunkering are some of the measures taken to further increase the export of sea-food items in 1994-95.

Export of Cigarettes

3641. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the unit cost of conversion of tobacco into cigarette in the country is lowest in the world;

(b) whether it is also a fact that share of the country in the world cigarette market is only 1.5 per cent;

(c) if so, the reasons for this low percentage;

(d) what are the hindrances in the export of cigarettes from the country; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take to boost the export of cigarettes from the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) As gathered from Tobacco Industry sources, India is one of the lowest cost convertors of tobacco into cigarettes.

(b) No Sir. It is only 0.23% in quantity terms. (0.23%)

(c) and (d) Some of the hindrances in the export of cigarettes are :—

(1) Strong competition from multinational cigarette manufacturers.

(2) Want of aggressive brand promotion abroad by Indian manufacturers.